

LABOR NEWS

FREE ADVERTISING FOR BOLSHEVIKI

Watson Conviction Supplies Sense of Martyrdom to Evil Cause.

LABOR OPINION

Orders-in-Council Should Be Canceled En Masse, Say Carpenters.

William Varley, a returned soldier with a record in the labor movement of being among the sanest of the progressives, stated yesterday afternoon to The World that the arrest of Watson, convicted and sentenced to three years in the Kingston Penitentiary for being in possession of banned literature, would have evoked but little comment, but that the unparalleled sentence would be productive of at least three factors which would work to the detriment of all concerned. In the first place, said Corporal Varley, the sentence would provoke among the revolutionists a real sense of martyrdom to a cause which in itself had little to commend it; secondly, the sentence would cause real bona fide labor men to wonder as to the intentions of those in authority, and thirdly, the whole thing was giving advertisement to the cause of the revolutionists which they could not have gained at an expense of \$250,000. In any case, one might well assume that the orders-in-council would all be rescinded when peace was really consummated.

John Vick, business agent for the Toronto-Union of Bricklayers, stated that in his opinion the war was not over until peace had been consummated. Nevertheless, there was a growing resentment against orders-in-council, and the principle of law-making by a committee was being advised in the extreme. There was no doubt, however, that so long as the war was on all men convicted of offences against the regulations adopted for the safe guidance of the nation in war were guilty of serious misdemeanor.

Five Subdivisions. "There are today," continued Mr. Vick, "practically five sub-divisions in the camp of labor. There are the reactionaries, who are against progress in any form; there is the moderate, who believes that the principles of trade unionism form the be-all and end-all of the movement; there is the progressive representative of 50 per cent of the trades unionists who believes that co-operation between labor and capital is the open sesame for real progress in the movement, and that much can really be gained thru academic discussions of the principles underlying both labor and capital, and that the application of the laws of the country as they stand and as they were intended to apply is necessary to curb a revolutionary spirit; there are the ultra-radicals, who believe in a democracy within a democracy, whatever that might be meant to imply, perhaps a democracy in which the principles of free speech could be carried to rather strained limits; and lastly, but not least, there is the revolutionary, who was in nine cases out of ten a foreigner, or perhaps an ultra-radical who aspired to yet higher realms of personal freedom, but whose real aim was to stir up a hornet's nest right away and to spread Bolshevism. Orders-in-council now having become unnecessary should be wiped off the slate. From personal experience he could say that the time which before the war had been devoted to discussions of work as the far more serious problem of the high cost of living, the discussions becoming more and more tainted with this lurid sense of Bolshevism.

Should Be Wiped Off. It was pointed out by thinking citizens, said Mr. Vick, that an honest administration of the statutes as they stood would eliminate the means everywhere of being casually tempted Bolshevism. Orders-in-council now having become unnecessary should be wiped off the slate. From personal experience he could say that the time which before the war had been devoted to discussions of work as the far more serious problem of the high cost of living, the discussions becoming more and more tainted with this lurid sense of Bolshevism.

Alfred Mance, John Flett, Walter Brown and other men representative of all shades of labor were all of the opinion that the three-year sentence imposed by Magistrate Kingsford upon Watson was an extreme case of injustice, but that the whole trouble could be laid at the doors of the vicious principle of orders-in-council.

John Cottam, secretary of the district council of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, stated yesterday that the literature for the possession of which R. Watson was sentenced, was stuff which Watson had bought years before the war began, that much of the stuff discovered had lain unused in the bottom of almost unused trunks and that the literature with the trade mark of Chas. Kerr and Co. had remained undisturbed by the Canadian Government for a period extending four years and two months during the great war, and that at the present moment identical literature was being sold by the hundred thousand in the northwest as free as the air. The carpenters, said Mr. Cottam, demanded on mass the cancellation of all orders-in-council. The war had been fought and won, and yet the very cause for which it had been waged was being attacked by the most unjustifiable autocracy.

The carpenters held a mass meeting on Wednesday next to vote upon this question.

R. C. Brown has been elected president of the newly organized Metal Trades Council. Other officers elected were: Recording secretary, A. Hamilton; financial secretary, W. B. Hunter.

The Independent Labor Party has decided to call upon the government to immediately convene parliament for the purpose of rescinding all orders-in-council which restrict the liberty of citizenship. The party will also urge the city council to accept the financial support of both the provincial and federal governments for the purpose of building houses for workmen.

On Thursday evening at the King Edward, the staff, which managers and department heads of the city council, met to discuss the matter of holding their annual banquet. Following dinner, a round table business conference occupied the attention of all. S. Syer, president.

Follies of the Passing Show—By Mitchell

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CHARLES MITCHELL

EMBARRASSING MOMENTS When they make us an offer for the old buss as a trade-in

PROVINCIAL LAND SETTLEMENT PLAN

Legislation to Be Provided Empowering Expropriation for Soldiers' Needs.

According to an announcement at the parliament buildings yesterday the provincial government will co-operate with the Dominion Settlement Board in providing land for returned soldiers, and at the next session of the local legislature legislation will be provided giving the settlement board power to expropriate agricultural lands which are not under cultivation. The government will further place at the disposal of the federal authorities the Ontario crown lands for soldier settlement purposes, and altho the province will retain the title to the land, legislation will be provided giving the federal government power to take a lien against the property as security for money advanced to soldiers for equipment. For some time the Ontario Government has been conducting the Kapuskasing soldier settlement, but by an agreement entered into at a recent conference at Ottawa, at which the province was represented by the Hon. G. H. Ferguson, the Dominion Government will take over this work. Mr. Ferguson has been an active promoter of this settlement, and he will arrange details which the federal government will be required to adopt as effectively as in the past. It is understood that the provincial government will draft regulations under which the federal government may make advances to soldiers. The incorporation of the land settlement schemes under the authority of the federal government will prevent overlapping of work as when undertaken by various bodies.

PARENTS PRESENTED WITH MILITARY CROSS

At the parliament buildings yesterday morning C. J. Leonard, father of Lieut. John Leonard of Toronto, of the 76th Canadian Battalion, was presented with the military cross by his honor the lieutenant-governor. The reward was made for gallant service and conspicuous bravery displayed by the young officer at the front during Jan. 1, 8 and 9, 1918, he conducted a tour of the enemy front line trenches in the vicinity of Mericourt.

Double presentation of the military cross and bar was made at Government House yesterday morning by his honor the lieutenant-governor to Mrs. H. H. Baird, Toronto, on behalf of her son, Capt. Alexander Watson Baird, of the 118th Canadian Battalion, who was thus honored for gallant display on the field of battle. On the night of Oct. 27, 1917, while in command of "D" company, 118th Battalion, he made a personal reconnaissance of the ground that was afterwards to be captured and obtained valuable information. Through the battle of Passchendaele he commanded his company with ability and coolness and displayed skill in organizing working parties. His work through the period was of a very distinguished character. Later, on the night of April 1, 1918, he personally organized a raiding party which he led into the enemy's trenches and was surprised by finding a patrol of the enemy lying in shell holes in advance of their parapet, he successfully entered their trenches after he had killed or captured the entire patrol.

PRIZE OFFERED FOR ESSAY.

At the meeting of the Municipal Chapter, T. O. D. E., which took place yesterday afternoon, with Mrs. Angus given in the chair, reports were given of the new wing of the prevention and of the gifts which had helped to make Christmas cheer for the children of the institution. A Christmas tree and dinner, together with other gifts, were reported. It is expected to have the babies' party on Monday in the spring. Mrs. G. Selwyn brought up the matter of giving a flag chart to the public and separate schools of the city. A prize will be offered for the best essay on the chart.

SCHOOL CONTRACTS FAVORED ONE FIRM

Company Criticized by Judge is Given Cream of Orders.

There was considerable attention drawn to the matter of the Fred Armstrong Company's accounts at the afternoon session of the school board enquiry, in the administration building yesterday, when Shirley Denison, K.C., called Assistant Superintendent Waste again, and took up the matter of these accounts. It was shown that the Fred Armstrong accounts were more commonly supplied by charges for extras, in addition to the original contract sum, than were those of other firms who have done contract work for the board. Mr. Denison drew attention to the fact that in the year 1914 contracts amounting to the number of forty and totaling \$160,387.85 were awarded to this firm by the building department. In the face of the unfavorable report of Judge Winchester, previous to that time, in 1915 contracts amounting to \$142,152.99 were awarded to this firm, and again in 1916 they received \$52,615.20 from the board for contracts finished. In addition to the original contracts this firm had received payments for extras amounting to about nine per cent of the amount of these contracts. "How was it," asked Mr. Denison, "that this firm got all these amounts extra in the face of Judge Winchester's report?"

Mr. Waste: "There are reasons evidenced by the work they did in the various instances." Mr. Denison: "Here is a firm which is severely criticized by a competent authority, to which you were paying a large amount of extra money. Would it not have been proper to have left data so that evidence with regard to these accounts could have been readily obtained?"

Mr. Waste: "It think it might have been proper." "But I see no data whatever in looking thru these accounts of the Fred Armstrong Co.," said Mr. Denison.

"Why did this firm get more extras than any of the other firms who did work for the board?" Mr. Waste: "Because there was work necessary in each case that was incidental." "Would it not be possible for a firm of contractors who know that they might depend on getting a large amount of extras paid for, over their contract, to cut down in their tenders so as to offer to do the work cheaper than anybody else?" asked Mr. Denison.

Confused the Issue. Mr. Denison read from Judge Winchester's report in his investigation of the building department in 1913, and showed thereby that it had been proved that the Fred Armstrong Company were short in radiation in thirteen instances, and he remarked that certain things were done by that firm for the purpose of confusing the issue.

Mr. Denison then recalled the fact that at the property committee, of which Miles Vokes was chairman, an effort to clean up the department by seeking for the resignation of Messrs. Bishop and Waste was defeated. When he referred to the situation as "the building department being whitewashed," Mr. McWhinney strenuously objected.

"Oh, you must not say whitewashed, unless you say it for the benefit of the press," he protested. "There was no such thing." Mr. Denison: "Well, then, shall we say the building department was left quite unscathed?" "That is better; it takes a lot to disturb us," said Mr. Waste.

Trustee Dr. Caroline Brown was called, and questioned as to whether any report had been made to her as chairman of the property committee of the small fires that occurred in the schools, she stated that she had not been informed of them, nor had she been warned that certain kinds of buildings were being used were more liable to combustion than others.

Mr. McWhinney objected to the enquiry going beyond the affairs of the building committee. The enquiry was adjourned at a few minutes to five, without any definite date for the next sitting being fixed, as Mr. Justice Lennox was unable to



Article No. 2 Cut out for Reference

Putting Efficiency into Repatriation

THE Repatriation Committee has been formed by the Dominion Government to bring Canada forward to a peace basis with all speed.

It will use the existing machinery and any necessary new machinery.

The Committee consists of Hon. Sir James Loughheed, Minister of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment; Hon. N. W. Rowell, President of the Privy Council; Hon. T. A. Crerar, Minister of Agriculture; Hon. G. D. Robertson, Minister of Labor; Hon. Arthur Meighen, Minister of the Interior; Hon. J. A. Calder, Minister of Immigration (Chairman). To assist them, Mr. H. J. Daly has been appointed Director of Repatriation.

This Committee is formed to co-ordinate the work of all those departments of the Government which have to do with the task of bringing back our soldiers to civil life, caring for them and their dependents, providing employment opportunities for soldiers and war-workers, and assuring proper living and working conditions. It also assists the efforts of all organizations and agencies prepared to give aid in the solution of our problems.

THE Committee surveys all plans. It prevents overlapping and confusion. It secures expert assistance. It obtains more speedy action, more effective co-operation. While its first consideration is the welfare of the Canadian soldier, its scope embraces the whole community.

The Committee has built up a Repatriation Organization to supplement the work of the existing departments of the Government.

The Committee has secured experts on each problem—military, employment, social, housing, farming, transportation, medical. Nothing is neglected. It invites representatives from all organizations which have interested themselves in the social and economic welfare of the country and the needs of our soldiers.

Co-operating with the Repatriation Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed by the Great War Veterans' Association.

With the assistance of these agencies the solution of the problem is presented to The Repatriation Committee in a practicable form.

The plans devised to meet every problem as it arises will be reported to you in the coming announcements.

Director of Repatriation

The Repatriation Committee

OTTAWA

LIBRARIANS TAKE NO CHANCES ON PRISON

Yesterday unusual activity was present in the various public libraries of the city, where the staff were busy among the shelves searching for books or literature of any kind that might come under the ban as socialist propaganda. The search is said to have been actuated by an order-in-council passed last May, but of which the librarians have been more or less ignorant.

Prof. Oliver is quoted as taking the view that the government measure is too drastic, having the weakness of falling to grade the socialist literature into that which is harmful and that which is harmless. Some of the suspected books have been removed from the shelves, and are awaiting order from the government at Ottawa as to their future fate.

Mrs. W. H. Barker is the newly-appointed regent of the Lady Ross Chapter, L. O. D. E., the retiring regent, Mrs. R. H. Cameron, being made honorary vice-regent. The sum of \$100 has been donated to the prevention of tuberculosis and 37 combination knives and forks given to the Davisville Hospital.

POLICE COMMISSION SOON TO BE APPOINTED

Appointment of a royal commission to investigate charges preferred in the recent police strike will be made within a week. This announcement was made yesterday to James T. Gunn, representative of the police, during the course of an interview with Hon. I. B. Lucas.

The attorney-general suggested that the appointment might be announced "within the next three or four days." He added that a determined effort had been made by the government to complete the composition of the commission, but the delay had been occasioned by its inability to secure the consent of the proper men for the undertaking.

SIR WILFRID WILL SPEAK.

Twenty-two readings of central Ontario are to be represented at a meeting to be held in St. George's Hall, Elm street, on Tuesday, January 21, for the purpose of organizing the Central Ontario Liberal Association. Each constituency has been invited to send ten delegates, and it remains for the local organizations to decide what proportion will be women. The object of the association will be the promotion of Liberal principles. It is understood that Sir Wilfrid Laurier will be present and will address the gathering in the evening.

FOUR-WEEK COURSES FOR YOUNG FARMERS

The annual four-weeks' agricultural course for young farmers instituted by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, are now being conducted in various centres of the province by the district representatives. Influenza has seriously interfered with the progress of the work, by postponing classes two weeks and often indefinitely. Otherwise, the attendance has been satisfactory and good progress made. In many cases domestic science classes for girls are being held concurrently with the agricultural classes.

The department is holding two farm tractor day demonstrations in nearly every county. At Guelph, Kemptonville and Chatham the demonstrations extend over a period of two weeks. Farmers will be thoroughly instructed in the use of the tractor.

Plans are being prepared for several new buildings to be erected on the grounds of the Kemptonville Agricultural school as soon as convenient. The school was established in the spring of 1917 and comprises two hundred acres of land adjoining the Town of Kemptonville. The first of the buildings, the live stock judging pavilion, is now completed and will be used for the short courses in February. The department proposes erecting a main building which will include class rooms and a laboratory.

SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE



THE DOCTOR: "Ah, yes, restless and feverish. Give him a Steadman's Soothing Powders, he will soon be all right."

STEEDEMAN'S SOOTHING POWDERS Contain no Poison

RECEIVES \$10,000.

Montreal, Jan. 9.—A jury of the superior court here today returned a verdict awarding Ella Stuart, widow of Emil Primus Hagg, \$10,000 damages against the Canadian Steel Foundries, Limited, for the death of her husband as the result of an accident while he was working for the company named on June 21 last.

NEW STAND IN MO...

Rabbi Jacobs Law Conf...

Rabbi Jacobs was dinner of the Elec the Prince George There was a large The subject of dress was "From t Jew in Modern De of the common ide is an alien, and eve there is an idea a that the Jewish re out theory and her am ought to have years ago. Many people thi has outgrown the the investigators proved that the r Jewish law were r the human race. I not believe that th is barred against a tions, but he believ and woman might heretofore to be r ded of their people.

LADY ROSS CH...

The regular mont Lady Ross Chapter Thursday at the The retiring regent, cron, was nomina honorary vice-rega sent by the cha membership for th throughout the past f Barker was nomina by acclamation, donated \$100 to the knives and forks t Davisville Hospital. The monthly me C. Auxiliary took Institute yesterday, dry presided, and e membership for th astically taken up, tended an invitatio mothers of the m help make up the settee for Belgiat

